



The TAPROOT

News for Tau Phi Delta Alumni

www.tauphidelta.org

Volume 3

Winter 2007

Tau Phi Delta Reunion Planned for April 2007

The brothers of Tau Phi Delta have been an integral part of forestry education for 85 of the 100 years that the program has been offered at Penn State. Tau Phi Delts have been and are leaders of forestry at Penn State and forest management and the forest products industry in Pennsylvania and throughout the US. It is only appropriate that we participate in the Centennial Celebration of the School of Forest Resources this spring.

We will hold a reunion at the House on Friday, April 27 as part of the Centennial Celebration. A reception and dinner at the House will begin immediately after the Centennial Tree planting ceremony and reception at the Forest Resources Building on Friday evening.

We are expecting a big turnout for the Centennial activities and the Tau Phi Delta Reunion. If we have an overflow crowd at the House on Friday night, we'll erect a circus tent over the patio and lawn.

The Centennial and Reunion will fill much of the weekend, but we'll still have time for reminiscing with pledge mates and others during informal gatherings at the House, the Nittany Lion Inn and maybe the Blue or White course if we have a group of interested golfers.



Please see the insert for registration information for the House Reunion. Blocks of rooms have been reserved at the Nittany Lion Inn; call (800) 233-7505 and ask for room block YOR0426, or the Days Inn; call (800) 258-3297 and ask for room block TREE.

We hope that all the actives in the House will be able to participate in the Centennial Celebration, and you will note on the registration sheet an opportunity for you to sponsor an active for the Centennial reception and banquet on Saturday night.

School of Forest Resources Centennial

The celebration of 100 years of forestry education is just around the corner. The School will be celebrating its Centennial on April 27-29, 2007. The new, beautiful state-of-the-art Forest Resources Building and the historic and elegant Nittany Lion Inn will be the venues for most of the Centennial activities.

The schedule includes:

Friday

- Registration
- Reception at new building
- Centennial Tree planting
- Silent auction
- **(TΦΔ Reunion)***

Saturday

- Continental breakfast
- Building tours
- Campus walking tours
- Campus bus tours
- Stone Valley bus tour
- Lunch buffet
- Beaver Stadium tour
- Fun Fair for kids
- Woodsman demonstration
- Quiz bowl
- Silent auction
- Reception and Dinner

Sunday

- Non-denominational Service
- Brunch

See the recent issue of *Resources* or visit the School's website at <http://www.sfr.cas.psu.edu> for registration information.

* Not an official function

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Forest Resources Building Dedicated

Tau Phi Delta was well represented

The new Forest Resources Building was formally dedicated on September 8, 2006. It was a beautiful and memorable day as a crowd of more than 400 dignitaries, alumni and friends attended the dedication ceremony and luncheon that followed.

Speakers included President Graham Spanier, Dean Robert Steele, Director Charles Strauss, and Trustee Walter Peechatka.



Brothers Bartnicki, Siefert, Webb, Wurzbacher (kneeling), Yorke, Judd, Strauss, McColly, Koons, Byerly, and Bommer (standing) at the new Strauss Faculty Office.

Many Tau Phis attended the building dedication; some of the attendees are in the photo shown above.

As you know, a group of Tau Phi Deltas made contributions to the School's building fund so we could name one of the offices for Chuck Strauss, our Brother, member of the Alpha Chapter Board of Directors, and long-time faculty advisor for the House.

Strauss Faculty Office

A gift from the Brothers of Tau Phi Delta.

In recognition of Dr. Charles H. Strauss (SFR '58, PSU '68, '74), Professor of Forest Economics and Director, for his 40 years as faculty advisor and board member to our fraternity.

Plaque at entrance to the new Strauss Faculty Office.

The following is the list of Brothers that contributed to the naming of the Strauss Office:

Phil Arnold • Joe Bartnicki
 Barry Borgiet • Tom Breslin
 Mark Brunermer • John Caldwell
 Rick Claggett • Wayne Dunlap
 Dan Douthitt • Dennis Dunham
 Joe Eichert • Carl Geesaman
 Larry Geesaman • Pete Hallock
 Bill Healy • Bill Herb
 Frank Judd • Tom Kears
 Cam Koons • Patrick Lantz
 George Leavesley • Bob Malecki
 Bob McColly • Clark McColly
 Mike McNamara • Bob Momich
 Wade Nutter • David Obarto
 Rich Parkinson • Stanley Piorkowski
 Greg Schrum • Bill Smith
 Mark Webb • Howard Wurzbacher
 Tom Yorke • Don Young

Other Brothers made major contributions to the building fund. Ed and Pat Kocjancic named the Kocjancic Water and Soils Teaching Laboratory. Bob and Catherine Bommer and Chuck and Carol Strauss named the W. W. Ward Silviculture Laboratory. Chuck and Carol also named the Strauss Meeting Room. Brothers of Tau Phi Delta also contributed to the Pennsylvania Forestry Association Director's Office, the Association of Consulting Foresters Ibberson Chair Office, and the Society of American Foresters' Goddard Chair Office.

The **Taproot**

Tau Phi Delta Fraternity

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The TΦΔ Endowment Fund

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Tau Phi Delta Endowment Fund

McColly replaces Judd as the Endowment Fund Chairman

By Br. Frank Judd (Fall '63)

Our Tau Phi Delta Endowment Fund has begun taking an active part in supporting the House. To date, we have transferred to the BOD \$29,500; all towards expenditures specific to the Fraternity's property. The E Fund assisted the TPD Corp. in paying off our mortgage and has contributed \$20,000 to the installation of the sprinkler system now underway. (Another \$2,500 was contributed directly from the gun raffle last spring.) Unless other funding becomes available, the Fund will also need to contribute as much as another \$50,000 to \$60,000 for the sprinkler installation.

The current fund balance is \$129,502. Of that, \$20,000 has been donated specifically to rebuild the House' failing plumbing system. But the plumbing will cost at least \$75,000. So between the addition \$50-\$60,000 for sprinklers and \$75,000+ for plumbing, we will have exhausted the E Fund.

It is now time to gear up and to begin thinking about how each of us can again contribute (or if you haven't kicked in yet-it's time to do it!) Donations are needed NOW to offset at least some of the physical plant costs. Within several years, after sprinklers and plumbing, (then electrical and roof) are paid for, we need to build the fund up to get back to our original goals: of establishing an Endowment Fund that can handle the fixed costs of maintaining the House; i.e., enough investment cash flow to cover at least taxes and

insurance, and be able to handle extreme and/or unexpected expenses. We would all like to see a million dollars in the E Fund, and that's still our goal for our 100th anniversary some 15 years from now.

Bob McColly will be taking over as Endowment Fund Chairman. I will be moving to California to help a San Francisco wood products company sell more wood (from PA). I have promised Bob that when I do come back to Penn's Woods, I will take over the E-Fund again. Bob has been very active in getting a number of Tau Phi's to donate for both the E-Fund and the Tau Phi Delta room in the new SFR building. Bob also has been a major contributor to the E-Fund.

Send your check for the Tau Phi Delta Endowment Fund or contact Bob on including the Tau Phi Delta E-Fund as a beneficiary: Bob McColly, Forest Land Services, Inc., PO. Box 810, Ligonier, PA 15658. (724) 238-2880, cell (724) 396-6705, email: forestls@adelphia.net. You also can make a contribution as part of your registration for the **TΦΔ** Reunion.

SUSTAINING THE TAPROOT

The Taproot is a newsletter for and about the alumni of Tau Phi Delta. It is part of the alumni commitment to get more involved in the House. We got off to a great start with the first two issues of *The Taproot*. We had many updates about our alums and numerous articles about Mont Alto, Tau Phis in the Great Outdoors, Forest Service connections, the new School of Forest Resources building, and House traditions such as black bear hunts.

We also had good financial support so the alumni newsletter was not a financial burden on the actives. Brother Ed Balsavage paid for the printing of the first issue of *The Taproot*, and Brother Mark Brunermer paid for printing the second issue. At the Board of Director's meeting during the 2005 Homecoming, Brother Charles Strauss offered to match all contributions to *The Taproot* received by 8:00 PM that night. Twenty-six brothers contributed \$10 to \$50 each for a total of more than \$1,100 ... and Brother Strauss wrote a check for \$1,500 that night.

We are in a better financial situation for this issue than we were for previous issues of *The Taproot*, but we can still use your help. Any contribution will help. Please see the insert for an opportunity to further support *The Taproot*.

Annual TΦΔ Gun Raffle

Proceeds benefit the **TΦΔ** Endowment Fund. Winning tickets will be based on the Pennsylvania Daily Lottery numbers drawn April 1-10, 2007. Tickets are \$10; sellers get one ticket FREE for every 9 that are sold. Winners can redeem the winning ticket for the gun or store credit at Gander Mountain Stores. Contact Shawn Cable at scable@state.pa.us or (717) 507-1417 for tickets.

M70 Winchester Super Shadow .300 WSM • Remington 870 Express Deer Rifle Sights 21" 12 ga • Lyman Great Plains Flintlock .50 cal • Mossberg 935 Black Synthetic/Blued 12 ga • CZ 452 American .17 HMR • Remington 700 VLS .204 Ruger • Mossberg Silver Reserve O/U 26" 20 ga • Savage Mark II-G .22LR • Remington 700 SPS DM 7 mm-08 • Marlin 1895 Lever-Action Blued/Walnut .450 Marlin

Memories from the Underbelly of Mont Alto – II

By Br. Brooke Thomas (Fall '59)

Editor's Note: Brooke wrote the following article about Mont Alto (we condensed it slightly) after attending a Tau Phi Delta reunion of the Brothers from the 1960's so those who "seemed to have little memory or feeling for the foresters' historical tenure at the institution." This is the second part of his memories. The first part was published in Volume 2 of The Taproot.

I recall dendrology field trips through the beautiful forest of the area. And of the time when Mr. Muench, the instructor, gave us poison ivy to identify. Without any leaves we examined it meticulously with our hand magnifying glasses, tasted it, and remained miffed until the symptoms appeared the next day. In the Forest Practicum session I learned to drive a bulldozer and loved how a two man saw glided through an oak log. Mr. Siever (?), the botany teacher, would also take us on field trips. He would pile us in the back of the old Army truck and go like the wind up and down dirt roads, careening around sharp turns. Even Orsatti, who owned a souped-up black '49 Ford, took notice.

Shooting rats at the local dump on Saturday night was a good indication of the quality of social life around Mont Alto. Wilson College women from Chambersburg wouldn't come near the place and the locals were similarly wary.

Nearly everyone had a rifle, most had two, and some three or more. This was undoubtedly the most heavily armed institution in the area and we didn't even have to count ROTC rifles. One morning two drunken locals woke up in their car at the base of the hill, and still hung-over from the night before made threatening gestures at several students. Within minutes 40-50 students swarmed down the hill armed with rifles, handguns and

knives. The locals drove off saying they would be back with their buddies but never returned.

Midnight bowling down the long corridor of Conklin Hall was an occasional sport. Mr. Vanner's (the physical education instructor) door was at the end of the corridor right next to the impact wall. By the time he could get to the door to see who had done it the hall was empty – all was quiet.

And then there was ROTC, a program plagued by the ongoing series of events that lead to our fair Captain Bardos' untimely retirement from the Army at the end of the year. He had tried too hard at self-aggrandizement and the troops weren't buying it. Events included the mysterious burnings of the ROTC bulletin board. Then a turkey shoot at the newly constructed rifle range was planned to win favor with his unruly cadets and to impress the visiting brass from the main campus (mostly the latter). Unfortunately the boys (men?) brought out the big guns on the night before and virtually leveled the range. It was a heart breaker when the brass was escorted out to the range the next day to view a pile of splinters. Rampant cheating on the ROTC test, which no one had studied for, seemed to be a justified indiscretion. Exam books circulated freely through the auditorium hoping that someone had a close enough answer. Sergeant Larroux, the one we really respected, was supposed to be monitoring the exam but announced shortly after it began that he would be "leaving for a while." Towards the end of the time limit he reappeared and advised us to "Finish up men, the Captain is coming!"

Forest fires were frequent in the Spring and all suspected from the pattern in which they were set – afire at each corner of an intersection – that it was the deed of locals who

were paid to put them out. On the day of final exams our section was told

exams would be cancelled and we were to fight a large fire on a remote mountain. What a relief, and off we went with crazy Mr. Siever at the wheel. In getting into the area of the fire we came to a small hamlet of log cabins at the end of a dirt road. These were real backwoods folks and it was speculated that more than likely they did some moon shine. The truck in making a turn nudged the side of a log cabin and out came an irate old woman with a broom. She started furiously beating on the hood of the truck and eventually stood on the bumper in order to whack the windshield. We eventually got to the fire and began digging a fire line around half the mountain. A local crew covered the other half and as we converged we could hear the fire raging in the pines above us. Somehow it had jumped the line. We were disappointed since we prided ourselves on the quality of our work. Upon expressing this to the local crew they surmised the fire had probably broken through their line since they used the "hop, skip, and a jump" method. Having never been taught this technique we inquired into how it worked. The method turned out to be one of digging a line until someone got tired, then walking for a while, and re-starting the line 100 yards ahead – "It goes faster that way and no one get worn out." Though left unstated, their objective seemed to be to keep the fire going as long as possible. We finished early in the morning and came down to a little cabin to get water. The family was still up talking to our director. As tired as we were two older daughters caught the eyes of several of the students. Upon driving home at sunrise our director remind us that it would be best not to revisit the daughters if we didn't want our pants loaded down with buckshot.

...To be continued Fall 2007

We Are Family

“We are family!” This is not about Sister Sledge’s disco song used as a rally theme during the heydays of the 1979 world champion Pittsburgh Pirates, but about what appears to be those *more than occasional* unique family connections within our fraternity’s membership.

You know? When a Brother’s brother is a Brother. Some call it a “legacy” membership. Like the film character “Flounder” in the classic National Lampoon movie “Animal House” whose older brother, Kent, was also a Brother at the Delta House. Or maybe it’s the kind of legacy, when a father and son are both Brothers. But we’re really not talking about the likes of when George H.W. Bush and his son, George W. Bush, who decades apart were members in Yale University’s infamous and secretive Skull and Bones organization.

In part, we’re talking about quality traits of our close-knit Brotherhood that somehow have followed bloodlines within certain families over the course of more than 80 years.

At fall 2004 Homecoming, while being interviewed by a pledge, it was observed by a visiting Brother that the young man was the son of an alumnus Brother. Ironically, that older Brother (the father of the recent pledge) had been interviewed by the same amazed Brother when he was pledging in 1977. Clark McColly (a current Wood Science major) was following the footsteps of his father, Bob (Forest Science major from 1970-1974). Connected not only in the family business (Forest Land Services, Inc.), and in schooling (at Penn State’s school of forest resources), but, now, with the same fraternal connection as Brothers of Tau Phi Delta.

Besides the McCollis, there have been several known others in recent years. Two that quickly come to mind, are Al Schutz (‘50) and his son, Wayne (‘75), and Ben (‘68) and

Eric Armusick (‘92) — both whom became Phi’s. Of the latter, Ben’s wife and Eric’s mom, Christine (Cabalik), was also a Little Sister.

Brothers who are brothers connections are more evident



**Like father, like son. Or visa versa?
Brothers Clark and Bob McColly.**

throughout the decades. Brothers who are brothers include the “Smith Brothers.” No, not the cough drops, but Brs. Bill, Craig, and Bruce Smith of Beaver Falls in western Pennsylvania were Brotherized at the House in the late 1960’s through mid-1970’s.

Here’s another brotherly connection that spanned several decades — Les Cowan (‘58) and his “baby” brother Jim (‘76). Although there may be others, but with limited historical information, the oldest known Brothers who are brothers connection dates back to the end of the 1940s. They are Alden (‘51) and Donald Amig (‘52).

There are actually many, many others who are Brother-brothers. They include (in no special order): John and Lee Moyer, Steve and Scott Gehringer, Fred and Jim Light, Carl and Larry Geesaman, Tom and Jack Cheffins, Jeff and Jim Harris, Billy and Freeman Johns, Edmund and Eric Ebeck, Dan and Dave Eppinger, Tim and Jeff Gillette, and Joe and Tim Hlivia. There were Wade and Troy Bartley, Eric and Gregg Horvat,

Pat and Paul Weiss, Tom and Mark Wisniowski, Chris and Marc Kamzalow, Emery and Matt Petrof, and Pat and Chris Wiley. Also, we’d include Scott “Whip” Wilson and his half brother Chris “Killer” Kilbride.

Some innovative “family” connections occurred through marriage. Like a Brother’s wife who’s father-in-law was a Brother, too. Donald Amig’s daughter (also Alden Amig’s niece), Lee, is married to Martin McGann (‘76). Or there are other in-laws too, such as Chris “Shoeshine” Daum’s (‘75) brother-in-law is Bob Hirsch (‘78), and Carl Galanti’s (‘75) brother-in-law is Marty Cohick (‘88). While Earl Hower’s (‘77) wife, Susan’s younger brother, Paul Schmidt pledged in 1990.

The House’s Little Sister Program added another element of family connections. For example, Br. Bob Bommer’s (‘56) daughter, Mary Kay, was a TΦΔ Little Sister, pledging in 1978. Br. Dennis Brehm’s sister, Linda, was a Little Sister, while Bro. Hans Vogel song’s sister, Kristen, was a Little Sister, too. Rumor has it this was done as so Hans could keep an eye on his kid sister. But the truth of the matter is, it was so Kristen could monitor his behavior!

There have been plenty of other family connections by marriage — like when a Brother marries a Little Sister. One of the first was when the House Phi, Mark Webb, married Blare Crane some 30 years ago. Through the decades, those such as Dennis Werner and Georgina Mallory, Bill Cook and Linda Kluck, Jeff Harris and Betty Hunter, Greg Peiffer and Mary Herbst, Mark Brunermer and Candace Blair, Joe Kolodziej and Alexandria Davis, and Paul Schmidt and Lisa Shilling.

See “Family,” page 11

Tau Phis in the Great Outdoors

The forest and fields and fish-filled waters are our playground

Editor's Note: *This is a continuing feature of The Taproot — a place much like the oaken walls of our fraternity — where Brothers can share their successes and failures, in the great outdoors. Send your stories and photos to Tom Yorke (tjyorke@mindpsring.com).*

Hunting Bears in North America

By Br. Joe Bartnicki (Fall '60)

My introduction into the world of hunting started at the ripe age of five when my uncles would return from hunting with their trophy rabbits, squirrels, and grouse. At the age of ten, I convinced my parents to purchase my first gun, a BB gun, with which I terrorized the local chipmunk population. Eventually I graduated into small game hunting with a borrowed 12-gauge, single-shot shotgun. In high school, I entered into the world of big game like deer, as I read the big trio of outdoor sports magazines — *Outdoor Life*, *Field & Stream*, and *Sports Afield* — and dreamed of someday hunting the animals described in the articles.

As time passed the animal that held the most fascination for me was the species *Ursus* — bears. The most readily available bear naturally was the **black bear**. During the pursuit of this species my hunting expeditions have taken me, in addition to our native Pennsylvania, to Ontario, New Brunswick, Maine, and New York State. I was fortunate to take 11 black bears during these hunts.

However, in 1982, I took my best black bear which would score 20-6 and rank number 57th in *The Pennsylvania Big Game Records (1965–1986 Edition)*.

Opening day of black bear season found me in the general area where I had seen him on a previous grouse hunt. At about 8:30 AM, I was still hunting along a good-sized swamp when I spotted a bear standing in the laurels looking at me, approximately 20 yards away. I raised my .35 Whelan and fired three times. The final shot at about 8 yards did the job. I didn't realize how big he actually was until I tried to move him. Dressing out at 420 pounds, his estimated live weight was 500 pounds. Luckily my hunting party included several healthy individuals and with four pulling as a team the bear was in the truck in two hours.



A young Joe and his big Lackawanna County black bear.

Kodiak Island of Alaska, was the home of my **brown bear** and on that island two guides, Bill Pennell and Morris Talifson, were legends. Known as P&T, they have guided hunters to 30-percent of the brown bears listed *The Boone & Crockett Book of Records*. I recall seeing their advertisements in my outdoor magazines; three 10-foot bear hides stretched on an outbuilding.

After researching costs, hunting areas, and success rates, and talking with Larry Van Daele, brown bear biologist on Kodiak, I booked a

spring brown bear hunt with P&T in 1985. I was assigned to hunt Karluk Lake which was one of Pennell's areas. At this time, Pennell was 88 years old and he didn't venture into the alders anymore, but he did accompany us to his hunting cabin on Karluk Lake — an area with the highest density of bears on all of Kodiak Island.

On the third day of the hunt, my guide Jeff "Buffalo" Hersch spotted a bear lying in the snow about a mile away on the opposite ridge. Making a stalk on a bear is an art form due to the shifting air currents, and the bear's "vacuum-cleaner" nose. We eventually made our way to a position above the spot where the bear was still bedded. We started to move slowly when all of a sudden the bear broke out of the alders running away from us at full speed. Jeff shouted, "Shoot!" and I did. Three shots later the bear was down.

Jeff instructed me to stay put and he carefully worked his way toward the bear. Once he determined the bear was dead he called me over. It was now about 10:30 PM and darkness was setting in. We skinned the bear by flashlight and attached the hide and skull to Jeff's pack frame. We made it back to the cabin about 3:30 AM. A good day's labor of love!

In 1994, I started entertaining the idea of a **polar bear** hunt. At this time, polar bears could be sport hunted in the Northwest Territory of Canada. I contacted several outfitters and eventually chose one and was informed that it would probably be three years before my name would come up for a hunt and was placed on a waiting list.

In the spring of 1997 I flew to Arctic Bay, where the hunt would begin. This hunt was to be a family

affair. Iplee Koono (grandfather) was the doghandler, and Moses (son) was the guide, while Jimmy (grandson) was accompanying them to learn the finer points of polar bear hunting.

Moses departed Arctic Bay operating the snow machine which towed a huge freighter sled packed with all types of gear, including yours truly. Iplee and Jimmy would follow bringing along the dogs. It took 3 days of very rough travel to approach sea ice where the seals live, the polar bears' main food source.

The first night in camp a "white-out" hit with heavy snow that reduced the visibility to zero accompanied by high winds. Our tent blew over several times and had to be re-pitched. What a beginning!

When the storm finally subsided, the hunt began in earnest, as Moses spotted a bear and things came alive. Iplee harnessed the dogs and attached them to the sled and away we went in pursuit of "Nanook." Upon getting within shooting distance it was determined that the bear was not of the size we were after and he was allowed to go on his merry way.

The next day Moses spotted another bear; same drill, only this time the bear met their size requirement and my .375 H-H did its job. After skinning and quartering the bear, we packed it back to camp. We arrived back at camp to be greeted by another polar bear that had ripped a huge hole in our supply tent, obviously in search of an easy meal. We managed to scare off this. That evening I was afforded the opportunity to dine on boiled polar bear. It tasted similar to pork.

My quest for the four North American species still had one more leg, a **grizzly bear**. In the fall of 2003, I booked a hunt in Alaska. Of the many guided-hunts I have been on, this one was a disaster, and I came home empty-handed and disheartened.

The following year my wife, "Saint" Patricia said, "You want to

get your grizzly and you're not getting any younger." I took her statement as a go-ahead to start planning another grizzly hunt. This time I chose an outfitter in the Yukon Territory of Canada.

Upon arriving in Whitehorse, I was met by my outfitter/guide and was told we would be traveling to the east on a 7-hour drive. Upon arriving at the spot we would be leaving the Alcan Highway, we encountered four feet of wet snow which made traveling further north impossible.

A change in hunting strategy was demanded, so we hunted the lower terrain along the Rancheria River where the snow was practically melted, and stayed in the little settlement of Rancheria, with a gas station and 4 cabins.



Joe and his interior grizzly.

One full-time resident trapper, by the name of John Love, lived in one of them. During the previous September, a grizzly attempted to break down the cabin door. With the door about to give in, Love picked up his rifle and fired through the door, knocking the bear off the porch. The bear escaped, minus a canine tooth and parts of his upper jaw. The Yukon Fish & Wildlife Department was notified and attempted in vain to get this nuisance bear. Due to the change in our hunting area we were now going to camp in a trapper's cabin along the Rancheria River. My outfitter, Ken, suggested we go to a nearby location and spend the remaining daylight hours glassing for a grizzly. We arrived at the location which was a perfect spot to glass the opposite mountainside and began the tedious job of glassing.

It wasn't 10 minutes later that Ken announced, "I see a bear! Get the spotting scope!" After a brief inspection through the spotting scope he said, "He's a keeper, aye! Let' give him a try."

We relocated to a spot which put us closer and the view improved by to no avail. Well, as nature would have it, the next two days brought some miserable weather. Snow, sleet, rain, and fog and no bear sightings. However by 4:00 PM of day three, we decided to head back to the cabin, dry off, regroup and make a plan. On the way to the cabin we stopped to get gas. This proved to be a stroke of luck! A local resident informed us that a grizzly was seen in the vicinity of the Rancheria River.

Ken's plan was to go along the river and select a good vantage point from which we might spot the bear if he had remained in the area. Soon after we began glassing we spotted a bear moving in a direction which would put him beyond our position so we circled back, hoping the bear would move into us.

It worked out perfectly. The bear walked right into us. At 50 yards, the bear spotted us and came to a stop. He stared at us and shook his huge head from side to side, unable to determine what we were. I dropped to one knee and shouldered my rifle. He finally turned broadside and I fired and down he went! A second shot quickly followed and the celebrating started.

After all the congratulations and handshaking we began to inspect our trophy. To our amazement, this bear had no right upper canine tooth and a piece of his upper jaw was missing. Upon learning of this bear's demise, the entire Rancheria community — all five residents — were delighted. John Love could now sleep in peace.

Ken's comment will be forever in my mind when I recall this trip, "I guess the Rogue of Rancheria River will be now residing in Pennsylvania."

Alumni Updates

Where we've been and what we've done

JOE “BART” BARTNICKI (Fall '60) recently returned from a two-week fishing trip on the Big Horn, Madison and Yellowstone Rivers with Brs. **JOE EICHERT** and **CHUCK STRAUSS**. He and Chuck are planning a return trip to Idaho in the fall in hunt with Joe. Another PSU forester, Stan Pennypacker, will join them. They all drew elk permits so we might have elk on the menu for the Tau Phi Delta Reunion Reception scheduled next April 27th during the School of Forest Resources' 100th Anniversary Celebration weekend.

We reported in the last issue that **TOM BRESLIN** (Fall '54) retired from the U. S. Forest Service. Tom actually retired from the New York State office of Parks and Recreation. He and his wife, Lucy, moved back to Pennsylvania in 1997 to look after a 95-year old aunt that needed help with everyday living. They are active in their church and do volunteer work at the hospital gift shop and with the American Cancer Society. They have three grown children that are having grandchildren for them to spoil. They have six grandkids so far.

W. “BUD” BROWN (Fall '59) is retired and living near two National Forests — the Pisgah and Nantahala, in western North Carolina, near Asheville. He says, “It’s a little ironic, since I hadn’t worked for them since my sophomore summer, in Oregon.” Last fall he hunted in the Uwharee N.F., in central North Carolina. He and his son, Clark, do their saltwater fishing in the Coatan N.F. on the coast. Clark is living in the Raleigh-Durham area and working in the hotel industry. Bud says, “I enjoyed a recent visit from Janet Doyle, and am looking forward to seeing the new forestry building! I read, with regret the death of **ED KOCJANCIC** ... **JACK**

BERGLUND’s old mentor!” Bud wants to know whether there are any other House members or PSU forestry alumni who work or have worked for the Forest Service in North Carolina or live near Asheville?

RICK CLAGGETT (Fall '66) is wrapping up 35 years of Federal service (including military service) with the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency in Denver, Colorado. Rick enjoys hunting trips with Tau Phi Deltas, most recently in October 2005 with Brs. **MIKE MCNAMARA**, **JOE ARMSTRONG**, and **DON YOUNG**. He also watches PSU games with the Colorado Chapter of Penn State Alumni Association with Bro. **GEORGE LEAVESLY**. He and his wife, Lois, enjoy travel, which has included recent trips to Africa, the Amazon, Machu Pichhu, and the Galapagos. They have 3 kids. Their son Chris works for Nextel, and has one daughter. Marc flies helicopters, and Cindy works for the Colorado State Parks.

JOHN “JACK” DAVIS, JR. (Fall '80) lives in Princeton-Junction, New Jersey, “across the tracks” from the University of Princeton. They have 4 kids now, Molly 15, Kelly 14, Emily 13, and John who is 9. They keep him and wife Sharon insanely busy with sports, school, etc. After years with Verizon in Maryland and Virginia, he now works in New York City for Bloomberg Financial, providing financial information to traders of just about any financial product. According to Jack, New Jersey is about as close to anti-gun as you can get, so he joined a great local gun club that is pretty active and “we continually fight the amazing ignorance in the State Legislature against the anti-gun and anti-hunting faction.” Both places are a far cry from his childhood home a

small, rural village of Sweden Valley in Potter County, Pa.
eatingwings@comcast.net

Both **DAVID “SKIPPY” DOMIN** (Winter '81) and his sweetheart, Linda Bucci, proudly announced the recent arrival of their new son, Jesse — a bouncing, 20-pound golden retriever pup. Since his graduation with a B.S. in Administration of Justice ('85), he has spent his entire career with the 580-manned Loudoun County Sheriff's Office in Leesburg, Va. As Captain for their Special Operations Division, Dave has a unit of 115 specialized law enforcement officers under his supervision. He is currently at the FBI National Academy in Quantico, VA. He and **JIM “CATFISH” BINDER** often frequent the Chesapeake Bay in their co-owned 32-foot sailboat the “Bay Odyssey.” Dave still picks up his mail in Harpers Ferry, W.Va.
ddomin@co.loudoun.va.us

ANDREW “BANJO” DUNCAN (Spring '95) and his new wife, Maressa, reside in Benton, Pa. Recently married in June, they have no children yet, but plan to have some someday. With his B.S. Forest Management ('99), he's working for Pa. DCNR Bureau of Forestry as a Service Forester in Luzerne County. Camping, bowhunting, waterfowling, flyfishing, flintlock, and black bear hunting — Tau Phi Delta style, keeps his social calendar full. Andy notes, “I always look forward to getting back to the House, and am really enjoying married life!”

Several Brothers responded to last year's *Taproot* article on the U.S. Forest Service's 100th anniversary and their years sent in the Service. As originally indicated the list of those who served was based on the Penn State Alumni database and was not as complete a source as we had hoped. **FORREST L. FENSTERMAKER** (Fall '53) replied, “I always enjoy your newsletter and the new emphasis on alumni ... You mentioned Brothers having spent careers in the U.S. Forest Service. Three names were

not mentioned, **DR. DAVID MARQUIS** and **JOHN LEASURE** and myself.” Forrest had a long career with the U. S. Forest Service. Half his career was spent in the Pacific Northwest and the other half was at headquarters in Washington, DC. Forrest was Alpha Phi in the mid '50s, and as a former house manager he says he can relate to the current needs to improve and upgrade the House, “Things do not change. There’s always maintenance needs.” Forrest lives with his wife, Ruth, in Williamsburg, Va. They were looking forward to his PSU 50-Year Class Reunion held this past June.

JIM HAYDEN (Fall '77) is a Regional Wildlife Manager for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho. (208) 769-1414 or jhayden@idfg.state.id.us

DR. BILL HEALY (Fall '61) retired in 2000 after 33 years as a research wildlife biologist with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He and Georgie settled into a 200-acre farm in Ritchie County, W.Va. The farm crops are peace, joy, and serenity, plus 45 acres of hay! Bill still does a little consulting work and has remained active with The Wildlife Society.

KEVIN “DOC” HOOVER (Fall '85) tells us that “Doc” is now his legal name in Red Lodge, Mont. His PSU degrees included an Associate in Forest Technology ('88) from Mont Alto and a B.S. in Geology ('89). He’s an environmental consultant, married to Sue Potisk-Hoover, who’s both a physical therapist and geologist. So far, they have one daughter, Morgan Taylor, plus “a few critters — 9 horses, 2 dogs, 16 cats, 5 birds, one goat, and a couple dozen meadow voles.” Doc’s open invite to all Tau Phis, “See you at the Lazy I Ranch under the Beartooth Mountains some day! Not a good name, I know, but ‘I’ was the easiest brand we could find. `Best way to Yellowstone National Park, if you don’t really plan on getting there, is by way of our ranch.”

FREEMAN JOHNS (Fall '81) After graduating with a B.S. in Environmental Resource Management in Fall '84, he began working for the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission in the Area 1 Office in Linesville on the Ohio border. He’s happily married to his wife, Jean, and they have two older kids, Jaina and Brent, both now living in Arizona, and a new black Lab, Holly, age 2. His hobbies include woodworking, fishing (Since it is job-related), and hunting (Especially for monster whitetail bucks out of his brother’s (**BILLY JOHNS**) western Potter County farmhouse).
fjohns@state.pa.us

EDWARD F. KOCJANCIC, SR. (Fall '51) of Kane, Pa. passed away on May 9, 2006. The late Br. Kocjancic was among 23 Penn State alumni honored in October 2005, at the Nittany Lion Inn for their outstanding professional accomplishment and given the lifelong title of Alumni Fellow — the highest award given by the Penn State Alumni Association. He is the only Tau Phi, and perhaps the only PSU forester, to be honored with such as distinguished recognition. Along with this honor, other previous recognitions from his peers included those from the Penna. Forestry Association, Society of American Foresters, PSU School of Forest Resources Alumni Group, and PSU Mont Alto Campus Alumni Society. After graduating in 1954, he eventually became the founder and president, Edward F. Kocjancic, Inc., a successful forestry consulting firm in McKean County. He previously contributed to the new PSU Forest Resources Building with the underwriting of the Kocjancic Forestry Teaching Lab, and more recently gave a generous gift to the Tau Phi Delta Endowment Fund.

BOB KREAR (Spring '43) sent us an update after the last issue of *The Taproot*. Bob graduated with a degree in Forestry in 1948. He was a member of the Penn State Ski Team. World War II interrupted Bob’s education at Penn State, when he

served as a Staff Sargent of American Alpine troops (10th Mountain Division) in Italy. Bob had a very interesting and varied career. He was an Associate Professor of Biology and taught at four universities. He retired from Michigan Tech University in 1984. He is an arctic ecology specialist and participated in four arctic and sub-arctic research expeditions. He also worked for 15 years as a seasonal naturalist with the National Park Service. He is a professional wildlife cinematographer, world traveler, mountaineer, skier, hiker, scuba diver, fly fisherman, canoeist, white-water rafter, and author. He has 3 films to credit and he has authored two books. Bob is now retired and living at 8,200 feet above sea level in Estes Park, Colorado, which is the gateway to Rocky Mountain National Park.

JOHN A. NORWIG (Fall '77) is Head Athletic Trainer for “the” Pittsburgh Steelers Football Club — Super Bowl XL Champions. He received his Doctorate from Vanderbilt University. He and his wife and three children live in the “Steel City” (Pittsburgh for you Eagle fans). After his B.S. Health and Physical Education ('79) and M.Ed. Health Education ('84) John worked as an Athletic Trainer with Bellefonte High School, Penn State, Vanderbilt University, and, now, the Pittsburgh Steelers. He’s been married for 18 years to Emily Davy, whom he met in Nashville, Tenn. They have three children, Erin (13), Nicholas (10), and Luke (8). He keeps busy with the kids’ many activities, but stays fit with plenty of physical fitness activities, and finds times to do some fishing, too.
norwig@steelers.nfl.com

BOB MOMICH (Fall '68) graduated in 1971. **BOB MCCOLLY** along with his wife, Dee, recently visited Bob and his wife, Pat, at their homestead in the mountains in northern North Carolina. They bought a beautiful piece of timbered ground and Bob built a picturesque log home. When Bob is not spending time doing TSI

on his forestland, he is busy constructing houses and barns for neighbors and friends. He also raises and sells shiitake mushrooms. His wife, Pat, raises organic fruits, berries and vegetables, and they have started beekeeping. Pat recently retired from the U.S. Forest Service. Bob's latest project is building a greenhouse and a water-powered electric generator to supply his home with electricity. In what little spare time he has, Bob builds and repairs dulcimers and banjos. Bob and Pat have a daughter, Allison, who is an Appalachian State University grad.

PAUL "WALLACE" SCHMIDT (Fall '87) is married to Little Sister **LISA SCHILLING**, and they reside in Lawn, Pa. with their four children, Melissa (12), Stephen (10), Emily (9), and Nathan (6). He works for another Penn Stater Ken Dietz, at his local John Deere equipment dealerships, "Deere Country," in Lancaster, Lebanon, Adamstown and Fogelsville where Paul too gets to use his B.S. degree in Agriculture Mechanization ('90). Wallace still wants to someday grow up to be just like his favorite brother-in-law, Br. **EARL HOWER**.
bullschmidt@access995.com

GREGORY M. SCHRUM (Fall '64) was presented the Dr. Joseph Trimble Rothrock Conservationist of the Year Award at The Pennsylvania Forestry Association's 119th Annual Meeting at Clarion in September 2006. Greg is Chief, Division of Resource Management and Planning, in the Pennsylvania DCNR, Bureau of State Parks. He is responsible for directing the management of the natural resources and facility development in the Commonwealth's 117 state parks and has worked for the bureau for the past 33 years. Greg was recognized for being the catalyst in the creation of a totally new land program in the state park system called "conservation areas" and in the formulation of a related state policy that provides this title for land donated to the Bureau of State Parks. These lands are designated to be managed for the purposes of preserving open space, conserving

natural resources and providing opportunities for passive, non-motorized, low-density outdoor recreation and environmental education activities. For example, in 1998, the 350-acre Joseph E. Ibberson Conservation Area, located in Wayne Township, Dauphin County, became the first such area in the Pa. Several other Conservation Area donations have followed and today their appraised value exceeds \$12 million. Schrum currently resides in Linglestown, with his wife Judy. They are the parents of two sons, Peter and Mark, and grandparents to one granddaughter. Greg enjoys gardening, hiking and a good book. He is active in the Lower Paxton Lions Club, Knights of Columbus and his church.

ROY "SCREAMER" SIEFERT (Fall '74), best known back in his college days for his part of the 3-man acrobatic bicycle antics in Beaver Stadium while on national TV (along with **KARL "FOOSE" SHAFFER** and **CHRIS "SHOESHINE" DAUM**), has worked with Pa. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' Bureau of Forestry for most of his forestry career since graduating in spring '76. Currently he's the District Forester for Tioga State Forest in Wellsboro living in nearby Middlebury Center. Working with him in District 16 are Brs. **TERRY STEMMLER**, **JOHN BRODNICKI**, and **DAN DICAMILLO**. Roy notes, "I get back to the house a few times each year. 'Happy to see the relationship the House has with the School of Forest Resources and the State College community. It's different — and better — than when I was at the House. He had a couple actives Brs., **JIM BARRY** and **CHRIS LAYAOU**, working for the university's deer browse project on his State Forest last summer. They even recruited one of their co-workers as a pledge this semester. He concludes, "That's the way our Brotherhood should work!"

TOM YORKE (Fall '61) and wife, Jeannie, continue to enjoy the good

life in Haymarket, Va. They enjoy traveling; they have been on three river cruises in Europe since they both retired. The most recent cruise was on the Rhone River in France. They spent four days in Paris, a week on the Rhone, and two days in Nice. Tom says, "Paris is a beautiful city; it was clean, and the French were not rude, contrary to the observation of others." They have two daughters, Barbara and Christa, and three grandchildren. Barbara and her husband and son live in Abington, Pa. Christa and her family recently relocated to Seattle, Wash. Tom is an active alumnus of the School of Forest Resources. He is the current President of School of Forest Resources Alumni Group, and he is on the Board of Directors of the College of Agriculture Alumni Society. When not traveling to Penn State for alumni meetings or football games, he spends his time golfing, bowhunting, and some infrequent saltwater fishing.

MICHAEL L. "MIKE" ZARICHNAK (Fall '64) graduated in September 1967 and **BUD BROWN** got him a job with Bartlett Tree Experts in New York. He went into the Army in January of 1968 and spent the next 4 years on active duty including 18 months in Viet Nam. After the Army and homecoming in 1971, **FRED LIGHT** helped him find a job in utility line clearing. He worked for Asplundh Tree Expert Company in Pa. and then in Fla. for 2½ years. Mike then went to work for Alabama Power as a utility forester, and he has been with them for the past 31 years. He has been active in the International Society of Arboriculture for almost 30 years and has served as the Southern Chapter President and the Chapter Representative to the international board. Mike is active in various other urban forestry organizations in Ala. His wife, Carole, is a native of Birmingham. They have two grown children, son, Michael G. and daughter, Andrea.

REGISTRATION FORM
Tau Phi Delta Reunion
Reception and Dinner
April 27, 2007

As part of the 100th anniversary celebration of the Penn State School of Forestry (Forest Resources to the “newer” Brothers), Tau Phi Delta Fraternity will have a reunion, complete with social hour and dinner, at the House on Friday, April 27. The festivities at the House will begin immediately after the Centennial Tree planting and the School’s reception at the new Forest Resources Building.

Please complete this registration form and return it with a check payable to Jack Byerly. Jack's address is: Jack Byerly

2170 Mockingbird Road
Harrisburg, PA 17112

You can contact Jack at: sandijack@comcast.net or at: (717) 599-4303 (H).

Name _____
Pledge Class _____
Spouse or guest's name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip Code _____
Phone _____
Email _____

Number in party _____ attending reception and dinner @ \$50 per person \$ _____

I want to help sponsor TΦΔ actives for the Centennial Banquet (\$20, \$30 etc) \$ _____

Here is something extra for sustaining the Taproot \$ _____

Here is my contribution to the TΦΔ Endowment Fund \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please take a few minutes and tell us about yourself and your family. Use the back of this form to provide information for the “Alumni Updates” section of the next issue of *The Taproot* newsletter.



My Alumni Update

Name _____

Nickname _____

Pledge Class _____

Degree/Major _____

Graduation Year _____

Grad School Degree/Major _____

Graduation Year _____

Marital Status (Wife's Name) _____

Family (Children/Grandchildren) _____

Work (Job/Employer) _____

Hobbies _____

Quotable Comments _____

Phone Number (To be printed) _____

Email Address (To be printed) _____

Address Service Requested

Tau Phi Delta Fraternity
427 E. Fairmount Ave.
State College, PA 16801

The Next Issue: Fall 2007

One of the feature articles in the next issue of *The Taproot* will be “Hunting Gams in Germany” by Br. Barry Borgiet.

We are always looking for good stories to include in *The Taproot* so give us some suggestions. We can do the writing if we get a little help on the story line and details.

Also we are still collecting information (trivia, stories, photos) on the Brothers (both living or now deceased) who served our nation during World War II. Please correspond with Earl Hower at 111 Plaza Street, NE, Leesburg, VA 20176.

We also rely on the alums to send us material for the “**Alumni Updates**” section of the newsletter. We only received a few green sheets with information about alums last year. We would like many more responses so we'll have a robust “**Alumni Update**” section in subsequent issues of *The Taproot*.

Please take a few minutes to send a note to Tom Yorke, 5384 Antioch Ridge Drive, Haymarket, VA 20169. You also can send an email to one of the editorial staff: tjyorke@mindspring.com, earlh@iwla.org or aheggenstaller@nrahq.org. Tell us about your job, family, hobbies, travels, and/or hunting and fishing exploits.